

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 103050

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DRAFTED BY NEA/RA TGGRANT

APPROVED BY NEA/RA SEPALMER JR.

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS STATE 103050

FOLLOWING REPEAT ANKARA 3247 ACTION SECSTATE APR 25

QUOTE

UNCLAS ANKARA 3247

AIDAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: TWENTY THIRD CENTO ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEETING

REF: LONDON 5450

SUMMARY: ESSENTIAL CONCLUSIONS OF ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (EC)  
MEETING HELD APRIL 8-10 IN LONDON WERE REPORTED IN REF. HOWEVER,  
IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT EC ABANDONED EARLIER NOTION OF  
HOLDING HIGH LEVEL MEETING FOR THE PURPOSE OF INITIATING NEW AREAS  
FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION. AS NOTED IN REF, AS A CONSEQUENCE OF  
AID/W'S AGREEMENT THAT USG DELEGATES COULD OFFER SHORT TERM  
CONSULTING ASSISTANCE IN PROGRAMMING METHODOLOGY, EC WENT ON TO  
SET FORTH AND ADOPT LOGICAL SEQUENCE FOR DETERMINING POTENTIAL  
NEW AREAS--OR STRENGTHENING EXISTING AREAS--OF COOPERATION WITHIN  
CENTO FRAMEWORK. ALTHOUGH ORIGINAL USG OFFER ENVISAGED MORE  
LIMITED ROLE FOR CONSULTANT, REGIONALS' TENACITY FOR PROGRAM

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PAGE 02 STATE 103050

APPROACH SUGGESTS THEY ALSO DESIRED TO BE RID OF HIGH LEVEL  
MEETING PROPOSAL THAT HAD NOT IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN REGIONALS  
AND NON-REGIONALS FOR NEARLY ONE YEAR. WHILE A HIGH LEVEL

MEETING ULTIMATELY MAY BE HELD, IT NOW APPEARS THAT MANY INTERMEDIATE DEVELOPMENT STEPS WILL PRECEDE IT. HOPEFULLY, THESE STEPS WILL PRODUCE REALISTIC PROGRAM BEGINNING AS WELL AS SERVE AS VEHICLE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF MINIMAL PROGRAMMING CAPABILITY WITHIN ECONOMIC SECRETARIAT. END SUMMARY.

ACTION REQUESTED: AS NOTED IN FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS OF CABLE.

1. REGIONALS NOTED AT EC MEETING THAT STEP BY STEP APPROACH OFFERED BEST OPPORTUNITY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF REALISTIC AREAS FOR COOPERATION AND ACTIVITIES MUST BE IN LINE WITH REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES; THEY COMMENTED THAT RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AGRICULTURE AND AGRO-INDUSTRY SHOULD RECEIVE CONCENTRATED ATTENTION. BOTH UK AND US DELEGATES NOTED THEIR GOVERNMENTS NOW EMPHASIZE RURAL POOR AND THUS REGIONALS' PRIORITIES COINCIDED. REGIONALS WANTED SECRETARIAT TO CONDUCT STEP BY STEP REVIEW. DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (DSG(E)) INSISTED THAT SERVICES OF NON REGIONAL CONSULTANTS ESSENTIAL FOR HIM TO PERFORM THIS JOB BUT HE WELCOMED OPPORTUNITY TO BE OF CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE TO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS.

2. DSG(E) DESIRES US PROGRAM CONSULTANT TO HAVE STRONG CAPABILITY FOR PROJECT DESIGN AS WELL AS BEING INTIMATELY FAMILIAR WITH TECHNIQUES OF SECTORAL PLANNING. UK DEVELOPMENT ECONOMIST WILL BE EXPECTED TO CONSIDER ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF REGIONAL PROPOSALS WHICH MIGHT LEND THEMSELVES TO FINITE COOPERATIVE EFFORT. DSG(E) FURTHER EXPECTS CONSULTANT TEAM TO DEFINE PROJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION BY ESG. IN THIS CONNECTION, PLEASE NOTE THAT DURING DISCUSSION IN LONDON UK DELEGATE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE MAGNITUDES OF PROJECTS WHICH MIGHT EVOLVE; WHEREUPON PAKISTAN DELEGATE VOLUNTERED TO REASSURE EC THAT IT WAS THINKING OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS AND NOT LARGE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. TURKISH DELEGATE VOICED CONCURRENCE. REGIONALS DID STRESS NECESSITY FOR SENDING COUNTRY DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND SUGGESTIONS TO SECRETARIAT PROMPTLY SO THAT CONSULTANTS COULD BEGIN WORK JUNE 15. INFORMALLY, DSG(E) INDICATED HE COULD WELL SEE CONSULTANTS VISITING TEHRAN AND ISLAMABAD IN PERFORMANCE OF THEIR TASK.

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PAGE 03 STATE 103050

3. SECOND PART OF CONSULTANT'S TASK IS TO DETERMINE SEQUENCE OF STEPS AND PERSONNEL SKILLS REQUIRED FOR ECONOMIC SECRETARIAT TO ESTABLISH AT LEAST MINIMAL PROGRAMMING FUNCTION. DSG(E) NOW POSSESSES RUDIMENTARY PROPOSALS WHICH ARE NOT YET IN SHAPE FOR CONSIDERATION BY ANY OF CENTO'S ACTION BODIES. HE ALSO POSSESSES POLICY STATEMENTS AND GUIDELINES FOR SOME BUT NOT ALL TYPES OF ACTIVITIES. HE REQUIRES SYSTEM THAT WILL IDENTIFY POLICY GAPS, SET IN MOTION ACTIONS TO OBTAIN SAME (INCLUDING NECESSARY STAFF STUDIES TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE DATA, RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTELLIGENT ACTION), AND TO WORK WITH REGIONAL MEMBERS OF CENTO TO DEVELOP

AND DESIGN ACTION-ORIENTED ACTIVITIES THAT ARE APPROPRIATE WITHIN CENTO CONCEPT AND FRAMEWORK. PERHAPS SELECTED CENTO STAFF MEMBERS (TWO POTENTIALS SO FAR IDENTIFIED) COULD AVAIL THEMSELVES OF AID/W'S PROGRAM AND EVALUATION COURSES AS PART OF SYSTEM INSTALLATION.

4. FOLLOWING IS KEYED TO EC ANNOTATED AGENDA: (A) III - (2) RESOLUTION "B" -- EXTENDING COMMUNICATION PROJECTS. AFTER BRIEF DISCUSSION OF ROAD PROJECTS, EC AGREED THAT ACTION WAS COVERED IN REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC WORKS GKEC/23/03) AND ANY FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WOULD OCCUR IN THAT CONTEXT. (B) III - (3) RESOLUTION "C" - EVALUATE INDUSTRIAL AND VOCATIONAL MANAGEMENT TRAINING. EC DESIRES TO ACTIVATE AND SECRETARIAT WILL PROCEED TO OBTAIN MEMBERS OF TEAM FOR THIS PURPOSE. (C) IV - (1) HIGHWAY EXPERTS MEETING. EC ACCEPTED RECOMMENDATIONS OF ECONOMIC STEERING GROUP (EXPANDED) FOR AD HOC, NOT PERMANENT, MEETINGS ON HIGHWAY EXPERTS. (D) IV - (2) CENTO RAIL LINK. US WAS NOT INVOLVED IN ANY DISCUSSIONS IN CENTO RAIL LINK; TURKEY AGREES THAT IT SHOULD STUDY ITS OWN RAILWAY SYSTEM. (E) IV - (3) CENTO MICROWAVE NETWORK. EXISTENCE OF MICROWAVE SURVEY TEAM WAS NOTED BUT PAKISTAN DELEGATE AGAIN VOICED REQUEST FOR US FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO COMPLETE SYSTEM; US DELEGATE ASKED IF ANY OTHER CENTO MEMBER WOULD BE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN FINANCING ANY RECOMMENDED UPGRADING OF SYSTEM. THERE WAS NO RESPONSE. (F) IV - (4) AVIATION TRAINING. EC NOTED THAT USG HAS NOT PROVIDED REQUESTED COST DATA TO SECRETARIAT FOR AVIATION TRAINING. (G) IV - (5) TELEVISION AND RADIO. UK WILL SPONSOR TV CONFERENCE. PAKISTAN AT THIS POINT AGAIN REQUESTED US TO FINANCE TROPOSCATTER LINK FOR PANJUR; US REITERATED THAT CENTO UNCLASSIFIED UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 103050

AIRWAYS PROJECT IS COMPLETED. (H) V - (1) SENIOR AGRICULTURAL ADVISOR POSITION. AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSIONS OF VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES FOR FILLING POSITION OF SENIOR AGRICULTURAL ADVISOR, EC AGREED TO FOLLOWING: (A) USG IS REQUESTED TO AGAIN TO SECOND AN OFFICER OR AT LEAST PROVIDE AGRICULTURE CONSULTANTS FOR TEMPORARY DUTY WITH SECRETARIAT; (B) BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE IS TO BE ASKED TO FUND SUCH POSITION IF US CANNOT PROVIDE; AND (C) IF BUDGET CANNOT BE INCREASED TO FUND ADDITIONAL POSITION, THEN SECRETARIAT SHOULD EXAMINE POSSIBLE CREATION OF POSITION WITHIN PRESENT SECRETARIAT COMPLIMENT (POSSIBLY AS PART OF SECRETARIAT REORGANIZATION STUDY). REGIONALS STRONGLY URGED FILLING OF SENIOR AGRICULTURAL ADVISOR POSITION BY NON REGIONAL AND URGED USG TO DO SO IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. (I) V - (2) AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS. CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS WERE CONSIDERED UNDER SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES. SEE (P) BELOW. (J) VI - VII HEALTH AND MINERALS. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT ON HEALTH AND REPORT OF ADVISORY GROUP ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT WERE APPROVED AS AMENDED BY DSG(E), I.E., AD HOC MEETINGS APPROVED RATHER THAN PERMANENT BODY. (K) VIII SENIOR INDUSTRIAL

ADVISOR'S REPORT. EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS HELD ON ROLE OF SENIOR INDUSTRIAL ADVISOR BY REGIONALS AND POSSIBLE MODIFICATIONS ARE TO BE CONSIDERED IN CONTEXT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION A. (L) IX UK SCIENTIFIC FUND AND US SCIENTIFIC SPARE PARTS PROGRAM. DSG(E) REPORTED THAT HE WAS ARRANGING WITH US TO TRANSFER SOME FUNDS WITHIN EXISTING AID CONTRIBUTION TO CENTO IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE DEMAND. FYI. REPEATEDLY, REGIONALS URGED CENTO PROGRAM BE DIRECTED MORE TO SPECIFIC PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES TO ACCOMPLISH CONCRETE RESULTS AND LESS TO CONFERENCES, MEETINGS AND SEMINARS. END FYI. (M) X MTCF. DSG(E) REPORTED SECRETARIAT WAS WORKING TO IMPLEMENT HIGHER LEVEL OF MULTILATERAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION FUND ACTIVITIES AND EC (A) APPROVED MTCF REPORT; (B) AGREED TO MTCF USE OF ACCUMULATED EARNED INTEREST; (C) APPROVED DSG(E) RECOMMENDATION GIVING PRIORITY TO AGRICULTURE RELATED ACTIVITIES; AND (D) WELCOMED INITIATIVE OF DSG(E) TO DEVELOP PROGRAMMING CAPABILITY WITHIN PERMANENT STAFF OF CENTO SECRETARIAT (EACH REGIONAL DELEGATE ENDORSED THIS MOVE). (N) XI - (1). TRADE UNIONS SEMINAR. US OFFERED TO SPONSOR IT AND IT WAS LEFT TO SECRETARIAT TO WORK OUT DETAILS OF SITE AND TIME; DO NOT HOLD YOUR BREATH. (O) XI - (2) INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR. EC SENT THIS REPORT TO SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE FOR CONSIDERATION (P) XII FUTURE ACTIVITIES. UNCLASSIFIED UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 103050

EC APPROVED LIST OF ACTIVITIES RECOMMENDED BY DSG(E) BUT IRAN NOTED CONFLICT IN SCHEDULING FOR SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH; EC THEN REARRANGED MEETINGS AS FOLLOWS: SUB-COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, PAKISTAN, OCT 20-23, 1975; SUB-COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND P.W., TEHRAN, OCT. 26-31, 1975; SUB-COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, SHIRAZ, NOV. 1-3, 1975; COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, TURKEY, NOV 10-12, 1975; ADVISORY GROUP ON MINERALS, ANKARA, DEC 8-11, 1975; (ESG(E), ANKARA, LATE JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY 1976; EC, WASHINGTON DC, MARCH 16-18, 1976. US NOTED PROBABLE DELAY FOR CONFERENCES ON ANTI-MICROBIAL DRUGS AND NURSING AND REQUESTED SUBMISSION OF NAMES FOR GEOLOGICAL MAPPING NOT LATER THAN APRIL 30. FYI. SECRETARIAT AND GOVERNMENTS WORKING ACTIVELY ON MAPPING PROGRAM; NOW HAVE NOMINATIONS FROM THREE COUNTRIES FOR INSTRUCTORS AND PARTICIPANTS BUT NOT ALL BIO DATA IN AND PAKISTAN STILL MUST CONFIRM DELEGATION. END FYI. (Q) XIII MULTILATERAL SCIENTIFIC FUND. DSG(E) REPORTED CANVAS OF MEMBERS FOUND THEM IN GENERAL AGREEMENT ON INCREASE OF ABOUT 15-25 PERCENT FOR MSG. DSG PROPOSED THAT EACH REGIONAL MEMBER INCREASE ITS YEARLY CONTRIBUTION TO 4 THOUSAND POUNDS (\$9,600) AND EACH NON REGIONAL MEMBER INCREASE ITS CONTRIBUTION TO 10 THOUSAND POUNDS (\$24,000). SINCE THIS INCREASE WITHIN EXISTING AUTHORIZATION BY AID/W, US CONCURRED (AS DID UK) AND REGIONALS AGREED TO RESPOND BEFORE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING IN MAY. US URGED ADDITIONAL FUNDS BE DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO RESEARCH. (R) US OFFERED AND COMMITTEE ACCEPTED INVITATION NEXT EC MEETING TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON. MACOMBER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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